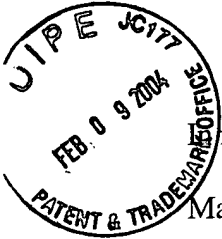


PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re application of

Masao TOKITA

Docket No: Q58571

Appln. No.: 09/538,475

Group Art Unit: 1722

Confirmation No.: 8142

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Filed: March 30, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY LOADING POWDER
MATERIAL INTO A MOLD

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

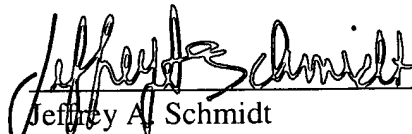
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 9, 2004